

# Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital

## 2026 Community Health Implementation Strategy

Presented for Adoption by the Wellfound Board of Directors  
January 20, 2026



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## **Our Hospital and the Community Served**

### **About Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital**

Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital is a joint venture between Virginia Mason Franciscan Health and Multicare Health System, as a collaborative response to the emerging behavioral health needs of Pierce County residents. The facility is a freestanding, two-story, behavioral health hospital with 120 inpatient beds. The hospital opened in 2019 and provides voluntary and involuntary admissions with a focus on general adult psychiatric care.

### **Our Mission**

**Mission:** To facilitate the development of a full continuum of integrated, high value, behavioral health services for the South Sound communities.

**Vision:** Building partnerships to create a behavioral health system of care that delivers opportunities for hope and recovery.

**Values:** Integrity, Compassion, Collaboration, Excellence, Respect

### **Financial Assistance for Medically Necessary Care**

Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital delivers compassionate, high quality, affordable health care and advocates for members of our community who might have difficulty accessing and paying for necessary medical care. In furtherance of this mission, the hospital provides financial assistance to eligible patients who do not have the capacity to pay for medically necessary health care services, and who otherwise may not be able to receive these services. The financial assistance policy and a plain language summary of the policy can be found at this web address:

[https://www.wellfound.org/patients-visitors/billing-insurance-finance/#pattern2\\_3](https://www.wellfound.org/patients-visitors/billing-insurance-finance/#pattern2_3)

## Description of the Community Served

Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital is located in Tacoma, WA. The entirety of Pierce County was used as the service area for the hospital. A summary description of the community is below. Additional details can be found in the CHNA report online.

Pierce County includes 900,700 residents, mostly White (64%), followed by Hispanic (11.2%), Asian (7.3%), Black (7.2%), and Multiracial (6.7%) with an increasing number of adults 55- 74 years of age. Immigrants in Pierce County originated from Asia, Latin America, and Europe.

## Community Assessment and Significant Needs

Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital engages in multiple activities to conduct its community health improvement planning process. These include, but are not limited, to conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment in collaboration with Virginia Mason Franciscan Health, MultiCare Health System and the Pierce County Department of Health, with community input, identifying collaborating community stakeholder organizations, describing anticipated impacts of program activities and measuring program indicators.

### Community Health Needs Assessment

The health issues that form the basis of the hospital's community health implementation strategy and programs were identified in the most recent CHNA report, which was adopted in July 2025. The CHNA contains several key elements, including:

- Drug-Related Deaths (adult)
- Insurance Coverage
- Hypertension
- Child Abuse & Neglect
- Intentional Injury Hospitalizations

Additional detail about the needs assessment process and findings can be found in the CHNA report, which is publicly available at

[Mission & Values - Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital](#)

## Significant Health Needs

The CHNA identified the significant needs in the table below, which also indicates which needs the hospital intends to address. Identified needs may include specific health conditions, behaviors and health care services, and health-related social needs that have an impact on health and well-being.

Priority Health Needs
Mental Health
Chronic Disease
Access to Care

## Priority Health Needs the Hospital Does Not Intend to Address

Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital is committed to addressing the priority health areas identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment. Given its specialized focus on adult behavioral health services, the hospital does not possess the capacity or clinical expertise to provide care for youth populations. This strategic alignment ensures that resources are directed toward areas where Wellfound can deliver the highest quality outcomes and make a meaningful impact on community health.

## 2026 Implementation Strategy

This section presents strategies and program activities the hospital intends to deliver, fund, or collaborate with others on to address significant community health needs over the next three years, including resources for and anticipated impacts of these activities.

Planned activities are consistent with current significant needs and the hospital's mission and capabilities. The hospital may amend the plan as circumstances warrant, such as changes in community needs or resources to address them.

The anticipated impacts of the hospital's activities on significant health needs are summarized below, and for select program initiatives are stated in Program Digests. Overall, the hospital anticipates that actions taken to address significant health needs will: improve health knowledge, behaviors, and status; increase access to needed and beneficial care; and help create conditions that support good health. The hospital works to evaluate impact and sets priorities for its community health programs in triennial Community Health Needs Assessments.


## Creating the Implementation Strategy


Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital is dedicated to improving community health and delivering community benefit with the engagement of its management team, board, clinicians, and staff, and in collaboration with community partners. The implementation Strategies were developed by Hospital leadership with input from The Wellfound Board of Directors and Joint Venture Partners.


## Strategies and Program Activities by Health Need


The tables below present strategies and program activities the hospital intends to deliver to help address significant health needs identified in the CHNA report.


They are organized by health need and include statements of the strategies' anticipated impact and any planned collaboration with other organizations in our community.

 <b>Health Need: Access to Care</b>	
<b>Anticipated Impact (Goal)</b>	Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital intends to reduce opioid deaths of those who are admitted and discharged from the hospital.
<b>Strategy or Program</b>	<b>Summary Description</b>
Narcan Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in the stopoverdose.com program to provide all individuals with or without insurance who are assessed in Intake and who meet the criteria to receive Narcan to prevent an overdose.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Resources</b>	Pharmacy Staff, Intake Staff
<b>Planned Collaborators</b>	MultiCare Health System Pharmacy

 <b>Health Need: Access to Care</b>	
<b>Anticipated Impact (Goal)</b>	Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital intends to make access to hospital services accessible and affordable for all who need it.
<b>Strategy or Program</b>	<b>Summary Description</b>
Benefits Enrollment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wellfound staff will help eligible patients enroll in Medicaid and other benefits programs.</li> </ul>
Financial Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to make charity care accessible and available for all eligible patients.</li> </ul>
Partnership with EMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase community access to care with Emergency Medical Services direct drop offs to Intake and Assessment.</li> </ul>
Intake and Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance website to assist community members in understanding admissions criteria, insurances covered and walk in access for a mental health assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Resources</b>	Staff, Patient Financial Navigator
<b>Planned Collaborators</b>	Virginia Mason Franciscan Health MultiCare Health System Third Party Payers Community Emergency Medical Services

 <b>Health Need: Chronic Disease</b>	
<b>Anticipated Impact (Goal)</b>	Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital intends to create better clinical linkages between those with co-occurring chronic and behavioral health conditions.
<b>Strategy or Program</b>	<b>Summary Description</b>
Hypertension Education and Referrals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inpatients identified with hypertension will be linked to community providers upon discharge who will treat and monitor hypertension and other chronic diseases.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Resources</b>	Staff
<b>Planned Collaborators</b>	Community providers


 <b>Health Need: Mental Health</b>	
<b>Anticipated Impact (Goal)</b>	Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital intends to support trauma-informed treatment for those who have experienced child abuse and neglect, both while a hospital patient and after discharge.
<b>Strategy or Program</b>	<b>Summary Description</b>
Connections to ongoing Trauma-Informed Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Social Determinant of Health (SDOH) screening is performed on all patients, and if child abuse or neglect is identified in the screening, the patient is linked to an outpatient service or counselor specializing in Trauma Informed Care to work with patient and their individual needs.</li> <li>• If there are concerns or indications of risk for child abuse/neglect in our patient’s home, that is addressed via care coordination and reporting.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Resources</b>	Staff
<b>Planned Collaborators</b>	Community Mental Health Providers

 <b>Health Need: Mental Health</b>	
<b>Anticipated Impact (Goal)</b>	Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital intends to increase awareness for suicide prevention through participation in Community Health fairs and events.
<b>Strategy or Program</b>	<b>Summary Description</b>
Community Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To educate community members and increase awareness of suicide prevention.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Resources</b>	Staff
<b>Planned Collaborators</b>	Community Agencies and Associations (United Way, Community Health Centers) Virginia Mason Franciscan Health MultiCare Health System



## Health Need: Access to Care




<b>Anticipated Impact (Goal)</b>	The community liaison will strengthen relationships with hospitals, emergency departments, outpatient providers, primary care clinics, schools, and social service agencies to ensure appropriate referrals and smooth care transitions.
<b>Strategy or Program</b>	<b>Summary Description</b>
Community Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Serve as a bridge between Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital and the surrounding community, referral partners, and local systems of care.</li><li>● Build and maintain relationships with hospitals, emergency departments, outpatient providers, primary care clinics, schools, and social service agencies to support timely referrals and coordinated transitions.</li><li>● Educate community partners about the hospital's programs, admission criteria, and services.</li><li>● Assist with referral coordination and discharge planning resources.</li><li>● Address questions or concerns from families, neighbors, and community stakeholders.</li><li>● Participate in community meetings, coalitions, and events to promote the hospital's mission, trauma-informed approach, and commitment to patient and community safety.</li></ul>
<b>Planned Resources</b>	Community Liaison
<b>Planned Collaborators</b>	Families, neighbors, and community stakeholders



 <b>Health Need: Access to Care</b>	
<b>Anticipated Impact (Goal)</b>	Community Collaboration and Education to increase access to care.
<b>Strategy or Program</b>	<b>Summary Description</b>
Community Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate meetings with healthcare leadership and personnel from other hospitals, including orientation sessions to Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital (WBHH). The goal is to educate stakeholders on WBHH's capabilities and limitations, admission criteria, and exclusionary guidelines to ensure appropriate referrals and increase access to care.</li> </ul>
<b>Planned Resources</b>	Chief Operations Officer
<b>Planned Collaborators</b>	Virginia Mason Franciscan Health MultiCare Health System

## Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital Board of Directors

Miriam Chambliss  
 Tim Holmes  
 Deepak Devasthali  
 Francis Mercado  
 Heather Coleman  
 Eddie Bratko  
 Jeff Eisen  
 Natalia Martinez-Kohler

## At-a-Glance Summary

<p><b>Community Served</b></p> 	<p>Pierce County includes the cities of Tacoma, Puyallup, Lakewood and Gig Harbor and the Joint Base Lewis McChord.</p>
<p><b>Significant Community Health Needs Being Addressed</b></p> 	<p>The significant community health needs the hospital is helping to address and that from the basis of this document were identified in the hospital's most recent Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). Needs being addressed by strategies and programs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mental Health</li> <li>● Chronic Disease</li> <li>● Access to Care</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategies and Programs to Address Needs</b></p> 	<p>The hospital intends to take actions and to dedicate resources to address these needs, including:</p> <p><b>Mental Health – Drug Related Deaths (adults)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Participate in the stopoverdose.com program to provide all individuals with or without insurance who are assessed in Intake and who meet the criteria for to receive Narcan to prevent an overdose</li> </ul> <p><b>Access to Care – Insurance Coverage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wellfound staff will help eligible patients enroll in Medicaid and other benefits programs.</li> <li>● Wellfound will strengthen relationships with hospitals, emergency departments, outpatient providers, primary care clinics, schools, and social service agencies to ensure appropriate referrals and smooth care transitions.</li> <li>● Continue to make charity care accessible and available for all eligible patients.</li> <li>● Increase community access to care with Emergency Medical Services direct drop offs to Intake and Assessment.</li> <li>● Enhance Website to assist community members in understanding admissions criteria, insurance coverage and walk-in access for a mental health assessment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Chronic Disease – Hypertension</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inpatients identified with hypertension will be linked to community providers upon discharge who will treat and monitor hypertension and other chronic diseases.</li> </ul> <p><b>Violence – Child Abuse and Neglect</b></p> <p><b>Mental Health – Child abuse and Neglect</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Social Determinant of Health (SDOH) screening is performed on all patients and if child abuse or neglect is identified in the screening, the patient is linked to an outpatient service or counselor specializing in Trauma Informed Care to work with patient and their individual needs.</li> </ul> <p>Mental Health – Intentional Injuries Hospitalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To educate community members and increase awareness of suicide prevention.</li> </ul> <p>Access to Care -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate meetings with healthcare leadership and personnel from other hospitals, including orientation sessions to Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital (WBHH). The goal is to educate stakeholders on WBHH's capabilities and limitations, admission criteria, and exclusionary guidelines to ensure appropriate referrals and increase access to care.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Anticipated Impact</b></p> 	<p>Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital strives to care for the mental health needs of our patients who have come to us from the community we share. In taking care of our patients, we also hope to impact and improve our own community. The strategies we have chosen to focus on in our 3-year Community Health Implementation Plan ensure that the work we do one on one within our facilities goes beyond our walls and into enhancing and improving the health of our greater community. Our strategies to reduce drug related deaths, improve access to more Affordable Care, assisting in reducing Chronic Disease and treating mental health, will strengthen the well-being of the community at large, making it a healthier community to live in.</p>
<p><b>Planned Collaboration</b></p> 	<p>Community Mental Health Providers, Counselors and Services</p> <p>Community Emergency Medical Services</p> <p>Community Medical Providers</p> <p>Community Mental Health Agencies and Associations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Franciscan Health</p> <p>MultiCare Health System</p>

This document is publicly available online through the hospital's website. Written comments on this report can be submitted to:

Administration  
Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital  
3402 South 19<sup>th</sup> Street

Tacoma, Washington 98405

or by e-mail to [Wellfound-QualityTeam@multicare.org](mailto:Wellfound-QualityTeam@multicare.org)

# Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital

## 2022-2025 CHNA Evaluation of Impact

### Community Assessment

Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital undertook a comprehensive community health improvement planning process to address priority health needs identified in its Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). This evaluation summarizes the programs and initiatives supported by the hospital—through financial contributions, in-kind support, and direct services—that aimed to improve community health outcomes

### Significant Health Needs

Based on the 2019–2022 CHNA, Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital prioritized the following health needs:

- Drug-Related Deaths (Adults)
- Insurance Coverage
- Hypertension
- Child Abuse & Neglect
- Intentional Injury Hospitalizations

### Actions Taken

Since the completion of the 2022 CHNA, Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital has implemented numerous strategies to address these needs:

- Expanded mental health capacity and access across the Puget Sound region.
- Increased payor contracting to include as many insurance plans as possible.
- Continued provision of charity care for patients in need.
- Offered free 24/7 intake assessments for all individuals.
- Provided suicide risk assessments for all walk-in patients.
- Delivered initial drug and alcohol assessments.
- Maintained access to a certified community drug and alcohol treatment team.
- Supported discharge planning for patients transitioning to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment facilities.

### Specific Initiatives

- **Drug-Related Deaths (Adults)**
  - Participated in the *StopOverdose.com* program, ensuring individuals assessed in Intake who meet criteria receive Narcan, regardless of insurance status.

- Assisted eligible patients with Medicaid enrollment and other benefits programs.
- Continued to make charity care accessible for all qualifying patients.
- Increased community access through Emergency Medical Services (EMS) direct drop-offs to Intake and Assessment.
- **Hypertension and Chronic Disease**
  - Linked patients to community providers for ongoing treatment and monitoring of hypertension and other chronic conditions.
- **Child Abuse & Neglect**
  - Implemented screening for Social Drivers of Health to identify risk factors.
  - Educated stakeholders on psychiatric facility capabilities and limitations to improve care coordination.

### Commitment to Ongoing Improvement

Wellfound Behavioral Health Hospital remains committed to addressing these significant health needs by dedicating resources, strengthening partnerships, and expanding access to care for vulnerable populations.